

EDITORIALS

Election - - Nothing New!

There's nothing new under the political sun and Tuesday's election proved it.

Editorial writers are struggling to evaluate the results of the general election nationally and in California in particular.

It is traditional with the electorate to oppose current office holders in a so-called off year. But we do think the republicans got more than a normal treatment this time.

The man who, by his record and by every other consideration, laid down a bed of roses for his opponents was Senator William Knowland.

He was defeated by a formidable candidate and make no mistake about that. Pat Brown would be a good candidate on any political ticket.

The HERALD wasn't guessing wrong when it endorsed Sen. Knowland and the things he stood for.

We are very sharp in our criticism of the sort of gang voting that voted out such tried and true public servants as Robert Kirkwood and Donald Burton.

But, California and America will go on. The people have spoken with a clear mandate to those who will guide our destinies.

We think the Americanism inherent in the Democratic party will transcend party affiliation.

That Complicated Ballot

Much of the confusion growing out of the exact tally of Tuesday's voting stems from the fact that California's ballot is overpowered with propositions.

The result has been obvious with confused and conglomerated tallying that even now doesn't remove every shade of doubt from the minds of voters.

We have a complicated ballot in California because it has become habit and custom of California legislative and municipal officials to dodge a responsibility they accepted when they were voted into office.

Officials are elected to do business for the public. They are expected to have the ability, the mentality, and the courage to solve public problems.

Let's have less of this shuffling of job responsibility in the future. At least one result would be a simplified ballot.

Safe Driving is Imperative

Each month, nearly 4000 California drivers are summoned to hearings. Interviews or re-examinations before driver improvement analysts.

STAR GAZER... Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars. Includes a table with names and dates.

End Of The Line



THE SQUIRREL CAGE by Reid Bundy

Life in the 'Good Old' Days

A clipping sent along from the Lindsey Gazette gives us a picture of life in the "good old days," as it was put down in the employe rules and regulations.

REGULATIONS TO EMPLOYEES

- 1. Store must be open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
2. Store must be swept, counters and base shelves dusted, lamps trimmed, filled and chimneys cleaned, a pail of water, also a bucket of coal brought in before breakfast, and attend to customers who will call.
3. Store must not be open on the Sabbath Day unless necessary and then only for a few minutes.
4. The employe, who is in the habit of smoking Spanish cigars, being shaved at the barber shop, going to dances and other places of amusement, will surely give his employer reason to be suspicious of his honesty and integrity.
5. Each employe must not pay less than \$5 per year to the church and must attend Sunday School regularly.
6. Men employes are given one evening a week for courting and two if they go to prayer meeting.
7. After 14 hours of work in the store, the leisure time should be spent mostly in reading.
Signed: The Management.

service station open at 6 a.m. these days, and certainly no "stores" as such. Maybe an all-night coffee shop here and there.

And rule two, What clerk now days is going to fill and trim lamps. And when-ineck would you go to find a bucket of coal—before breakfast yet.

Skip to rule four. How about that bit about the Spanish cigar smoker who is shaved by a barber and visits places of amusement. Instead of being suspected by the management, he is probably

being groomed for an executive post in the firm these days.

ONE EVENING A WEEK FOR COURTING???

The gay blade of today spends nearly every evening courting—and most of them manage to sneak in an afternoon and a long week end.

And that last one... "after 14 hours of work..." etc. After 14 hours of work today, a guy would be too tired to battle the freeway traffic home—he'd just stay on the job.

FROM OUR MAILBOX by Our Readers

Family Grateful

Dear Editor: We hope this message will reach all our many friends who gave so generously of their time, effort, and material in our time of need. It is wonderful to know that people have not forgotten the value of kindness and friendliness. We wish to thank you all. THE OFFUTT FAMILY

your firm stand on Proposition 13 in the recent election. We had hoped and prayed that the adverse, unfair propaganda would not impress the majority of the electorate and our confidence has been justified. Our thanks to you and similar courageous, fair-minded citizens... The ladies of the guilds will not forget you. With every best wish and good luck to you. MRS. FRANK E. McALLISTER, President, St. Lawrence Martyr Guilds, St. Lawrence Martyr Catholic Church, Redondo Beach, Calif.

LAW IN ACTION

Jurisdiction Rules

For many years California law makers have made progress in making the rules that govern law suits both simple and adequate.

Yet the courts must still decide how to proceed when two otherwise sound rules are in direct conflict.

For example, suppose the Quixote superior court and the Pancho superior court could both try a case, since the property at stake lies in both counties. The law suit was filed in Quixote county at 10 a.m. and in Pancho county at 11 a.m. on the same day. Which county court tries the case?

The California Supreme Court has held that the court where the action first started tries the case or otherwise settles it. This is the court which first gets control of the "res" or specific property or thing at stake. Thus Quixote county superior court would try the action.

A Vermontor, for example, died. He held property in several California counties. Which county court can settle the Vermontor's estate?

The outlook for increased traffic safety through the improvement of individual drivers is very encouraging.

Tracing Torrance History

Title to Rancho Firmly Established by Nephew

(This is the fourth in a series of articles relating the history of the early title-holders to the land, which now comprises the general harbor area of Los Angeles County, including the area occupied by the city of Torrance.)

By R. C. GILLINGHAM

The next phase in the story of the Rancho San Pedro deals with events leading to the regnant of title to Cristobal Dominguez, nephew and heir of Juan Jose. These also included the continuing disputes which arose over the ownership of the Rancho, under both Spanish and Mexican rule.

Like his uncle, the record as to the earlier life of Cristobal Dominguez is extremely limited. He was born in 1758 at the Presidio of Loreto in Baja, California. Following the example of both his father and his uncle, Cristobal also was a soldado de cuera, eventually attaining the rank of sergeant of his cavalry troop. During his early service he was stationed in the frontier Mexican provinces of Sonora and Sonora.

In 1795, Cristobal was ordered north with his company in Alta California. For almost 25 years thereafter he was in continuous service at the missions and presidios, principally in the south. From 1803 to 1813, he was in charge of the guard at the Mission San Juan Capistrano. He then was transferred to the Presidio of San Diego, where he was retired at the close of the year 1820.

Unlike his uncle, Cristobal was married soon after coming to California. His wife was Maria de los Reyes Ylancz, daughter of a government commissioner in Mexico. Of this marriage there were four sons and four daughters, two of whom died in early childhood.

For eight years after the death of his uncle in 1809, Cristobal Dominguez made no serious effort to take possession of the huge tract which he had inherited. He apparently had no direct contact with the Rancho, and received no financial benefit from its operation. While he had some knowledge of Manuel Gutierrez and the activities of other occupants, his military duties prevented any opportunity to make a personal inspection. In fact, as it turns out, after the departure of Juan Jose in 1805, no member of the Dominguez family lived on the Rancho San Pedro for over 20 years.

As a result of this neglect, the Rancho, to all intents and purposes, was in full control of the mayor doma and executor, Gutierrez, who, as the years went on, assumed that he was the actual owner. Furthermore, Jose Dolores Sepulveda had built a home for himself in the Palos Verdes, and claimed that part of the grant. On the northwest portion, two members of the Avila family were running cattle and in the harbor area Augustin Machado was grazing still another herd.

Apparently the neighbors took it for granted that the Dominguez family no longer had any interest in the Rancho, and this also was assumed in the public records. In an official list of settlers and rancheros included in the Los Angeles Prefecture, published in 1818, there appears the entry: "Manuel Gutierrez, on the rancho of the late Juan Jose Dominguez, which he now owned; three others, two Alcala and Sepulveda, etc., on the same Rancho."

Because of the foregoing circumstances, evolving through an extended period, it therefore appeared that while Cristobal Dominguez was the legatee of the Rancho San Pedro, he had yet to obtain full possession. Aside from the occupancy of the several parties mentioned there was continuing disputes over rancho boundaries and over the ownership of cattle. Including the original Dominguez stock and a separate herd which had been developed by Gutierrez, no less than five herds were involved, all sharing some part of the same pasture land.

The ownership of untamed horses and of "orejanes" or unbranded yearling cattle was a constant source of friction. Moreover, all the herds had increased steadily in number. By 1817, the combined stock of the several owners totaled more than 9000 cattle, and more than 500 horses and colts.

Early in 1817, faced with the loss of his inheritance, Cristobal Dominguez at last took steps to obtain control of the Rancho. A petition was sent to the governor, Pablo Solá, citing the facts supporting his claim through the will of his uncle, and demanding that all parties except Gutierrez be removed from the Rancho. The governor ordered a survey of the Rancho boundaries, but made no final decision as to ownership at that time, and the matter dragged on in typical Spanish fashion for another five years.

In 1822, California came under Mexican rule, which forced all landowners to get their lands confirmed under the new regime. Cristobal thereupon addressed a second petition to Pablo Solá, who continued as governor. This time he was more successful. On Dec. 31, 1822, one of the last official acts of Governor Solá before going out of office was a decree approving the Dominguez claim. This amounted to a grant of title to the Rancho, and the first definite confirmation of the "permission" given to Juan Jose Dominguez in 1784.

Thus it transpired, more than 13 years after the death of his uncle, that Cristobal Dominguez finally acquired full rights to the Rancho San Pedro. The long delay prevented the aging sergeant from taking personal control of his inheritance. Then well advanced in years, he remained at his home in San Diego, and never had the satisfaction of spending his last days on his own property.

During the ensuing two years, afflicted with organic ailments, he at last became bedridden and died on Jan. 6, 1825, at 4 o'clock in the morning. He was buried with full Catholic rites in the Presidio cemetery. His will bequeathed the Rancho to his widow and surviving children, Manuel, his oldest son, was named as executor.

And so it was that Cristobal Dominguez, professional soldier, following in the footsteps of his uncle, played his part in the story of the Rancho San Pedro. Like Juan Jose, he did little to preserve his inheritance. Moreover, he passed on a number of problems which caused considerable litigation before they were settled.

His chief contribution was that he served as the vital connection link in the chain of title from the original grant of the Rancho to its ultimate confirmation under American law. Fortunately for the later generations of the Dominguez family, Cristobal also sired a capable son, Manuel, under whose direction the Rancho San Pedro was destined to become the most enduring and prosperous Spanish grant in all of Los Angeles County.

How Manuel Dominguez lost a 31,000-acre corner of his rancho, the Palos Verdes peninsula, to the Sepulvedas will be reported in the HERALD Thursday.

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"Quite a bit of the world's trouble is produced by those who don't produce anything else."—Pathfinder.

"Every time people cut down on what they do for a dollar, they cut down on what the dollar will do for them."—Bill Sandlin.

"To err is human. To blame it on the other party is politics."—S. Omar Barker.

"The weaker sex is the stronger because of the weakness of the stronger sex for the weaker sex."—Country Gentleman.



"The girl who lays all her cards on the table, will usually be left playing solitaire."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

A crossword puzzle grid with clues for across and down words.

A grid for a word search puzzle with various words hidden within.